CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 through 90 (canceled)

91. (New) An isolated polynucleotide coding for a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

92. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 91.

93. (New) A bacterium of the genus Corynebacterium comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 91.

94. (New) The bacterium of claim 93, wherein said bacterium is one of the species Corynebacterium glutamicum.

95. (New) A bacterium of the species Escherichia coli or Corynebacterium glutamicum comprising the vector of claim 92.

96. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 165 to 3587 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

97. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 96.

98. (New) A bacterium of the genus Corynebacterium comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 96.

99. (New) The bacterium of claim 98, wherein said bacterium is one of the species Corynebacterium glutamicum.

100. (New) A bacterium of the species Escherichia coli or Corynebacterium glutamicum comprising the vector of claim 97.

101. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

102. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 101.

103. (New) A bacterium of the genus Corynebacterium comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 101.

104. (New) The bacterium of claim 103, wherein said bacterium is one of the species Corynebacterium glutamicum.

105. (New) A bacterium of the species Escherichia coli or Corynebacterium glutamicum comprising the vector of claim 102.

106. (New) An isolated polypeptide having pyruvate carboxylase enzymatic activity comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

107. (New) A pVWEX1pyc vector deposited under DSM 12893.

108. (New) A bacterium comprising the vector of claim 107.

109. (New) An isolated pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2.